

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

**Claim 1 (currently amended):** A safety device ~~for a vehicle (2), in particular for a motor vehicle,~~ for reducing the risk of injury to a vehicle occupant in the event of lateral impact, said safety device comprising: accidents, having

at least one cushion element ~~(32, 34)~~ which is arranged on the vehicle ~~[[ (2) ]]~~ laterally adjacent to an occupant position and can be moved by an actuating device ~~[[ (40) ]]~~ from a rest position into a deployed position in the direction of the occupant position, ~~it being possible for; wherein,~~

the actuating device ~~(40) to be~~ is driven by a vehicle-mounted drive; and ~~(46), characterized~~

~~in that~~ the vehicle-mounted drive ~~(46) is embodied as~~ comprises an electric motor.

**Claim 2 (currently amended):** The safety device as claimed in claim 1, wherein:

~~characterized~~

~~in that~~ the cushion element ~~(32, 34)~~ is arranged in or on a door ~~[(8)]~~ or in or on a body pillar ~~[(6)]~~ of the vehicle ~~[(2)]~~.

**Claim 3 (currently amended):** The safety device as claimed in claim 1 ~~[[or 2]]~~, wherein:

~~characterized~~

~~in that~~ a plurality of cushion elements ~~(32, 34)~~ and/or additional foam elements ~~(18, 26, 28, 30)~~ ~~which~~ are arranged in series ~~are provided~~.

**Claim 4 (currently amended):** The safety device as claimed in claim 1, wherein: ~~at least one of the preceding claims,~~

~~characterized~~

~~in that~~ the cushion elements ~~(32, 34)~~ and/or ~~[[the]]~~ foam elements ~~(18, 26, 28, 30)~~ are arranged such that they can be displaced with respect to one another.

**Claim 5 (currently amended):** The safety device as claimed in claim 1, wherein: ~~at least one of the preceding claims,~~

~~characterized~~

~~in that~~ the cushion elements ~~(32, 34)~~ and/or the foam elements ~~(18, 26, 28, 30)~~ are at least indirectly guided by linear guides ~~[(60)]~~.

**Claim 6 (currently amended):** The safety device as claimed in claim 1,  
wherein: ~~at least one of the preceding claims,~~

~~characterized~~

~~in that~~ the cushion element (32, 34) can be locked in a deployed  
position.

**Claim 7 (currently amended):** The safety device as claimed in claim 1,  
wherein: ~~at least one of the preceding claims,~~

~~characterized~~

~~in that~~ the actuating device [(40)] has a traction means [(42)]  
which ~~is embodied as~~ comprises one of a cable [[or]] and a belt.

**Claim 8 (currently amended):** The safety device as claimed in claim 7,  
wherein:

~~characterized~~

~~in that~~ the traction means [(42)] is stored, at least in sections, in or  
on a store [(44)].

**Claim 9 (currently amended):** The safety device as claimed in claim 8,  
wherein:

~~characterized~~

~~in that~~ the traction means ~~[[ (42) ]]~~ can be wound in or onto the store ~~[[ (44), ]]~~; and ~~in that~~

the store ~~[[ (44) ]]~~ can be driven by the vehicle-mounted drive ~~[[ (46) ]]~~.

**Claim 10 (currently amended):** The safety device as claimed in claim 1, wherein: ~~at least one of the preceding claims,~~

~~characterized~~

~~in that~~ an auxiliary drive is provided for moving the cushion element ~~(32, 34)~~ in the direction of the occupant position.

**Claim 11 (currently amended):** The safety device as claimed in claim 10, wherein:

~~characterized~~

~~in that~~ the auxiliary drive is formed by one of a spring store ~~and/or~~ and pyrotechnic elements.

**Claim 12 (currently amended):** The safety device as claimed in claim 10, wherein: ~~at least one of the preceding claims,~~

~~characterized~~

~~in that~~ the vehicle-mounted drive ~~(46) and/or~~ the auxiliary drive ~~are/is~~ coupled to sensors for detecting ~~[[the]]~~ at least one of a vehicle state ~~and/or~~ a state of the vehicle's surroundings.

**Claim 13 (currently amended):** The safety device as claimed in claim 1, wherein: ~~at least one of the preceding claims,~~

~~characterized~~

~~in that~~ at least one return element ~~[(58)]~~ is provided for moving the at least one cushion element from a deployed position into the rest position.

**Claim 14 (currently amended):** The safety device as claimed in claim 13, wherein:

~~characterized~~

~~in that~~ the return element (58) ~~is formed by~~ comprises at least one tension spring.

**Claim 15 (currently amended):** Method for operating a safety device, ~~in particular as claimed in one of the preceding claims, in particular~~ for a motor vehicle for reducing the risk of injury to a vehicle occupant in the event of ~~[[later]]~~ an imminent impact accidents accident, said device having comprising:

at least one cushion element ~~(32, 34)~~ which is arranged on the vehicle ~~[[2]]~~ laterally adjacent to an occupant position; and ~~can be moved by~~

an actuating device ~~[(40)]~~ for moving said cushion element from a rest position into a deployed position in the direction of the occupant position~~[[,]]~~;

wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the actuating device ~~[(40)]~~ is driven by an electric motor.